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Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know from the hon. the Home Member whether the Superintendent is one of a number of officers for whom the Government do not consider that any test is necessary and whether the Superintendent without passing any test is doing his work satisfactorily ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" He is doing his work satisfactorily."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Are the Government satisfied that the work done by him at present is satisfactory ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " Yes."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" With all these dismissals and deaths ? "

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—" In view of these dismissals and suspensions and other irregularities, is there not something inherently wrong in the Press ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " No, Sir."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know whether the Superintendent, Government Press, as head of the office, carries on the accounts side of it ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " Yes, Sir."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I know whether the same is the case in other workshops and departments in the portfolio of the hon. the Home Member ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I don't understand the question, Sir."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" I wish to know whether it is a special exemption to this officer or it is a general exemption to the Superintendent."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " This is a matter that relates to what happened ten or fifteen years ago."

Alleged memorials from the piece-workers in the Government Press.

*140 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the piece-workers of the Government Press submitted memorials to Government thrice in the year 1927 for improvement of their conditions of service, remuneration, etc., and whether they have all been rejected without any enquiry into them and why; and

(b) whether there is a good deal of friction between the Superintendent and the employees of the Government Press ?

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A.—(*a*) Piece-workers of the Government Press memorialized the Government thrice during 1927. The memorials were carefully considered by Government and the concessions granted are detailed in the answer given to Question No. 1703 at the meeting of the Legislative Council on 13th March 1928.

(*b*) The Government have no reason to suppose that there is unnecessary friction between the Superintendent and the employees of the Government Press.

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—" With reference to the answer to clause (*b*) of this question, may I know on what data they have come to that conclusion ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Because there is nothing to the contrary."

Grant of casual leave to piece-workers in the Government Press.

* 141 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether there was a proposal in 1928 that piece-workers in the Government Press may be granted casual leave for 15 days based on average earnings and why the proposal was negatived by the Government ?

A.—No such proposal has been received by Government.

Qualifications of Mr. Lepper, Assistant Superintendent of the Government Press.

* 142 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : With reference to the answers to the supplementary questions on Question No. 769 answered on 31st March 1927, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what qualifications Mr. Lepper, the Assistant Superintendent of the Government Press, possesses for the post he holds ;

(*b*) whether he has passed any special examination ; and

(*c*) why he has been given a higher starting salary and a higher scale of annual increment than his superior officer, the Deputy Superintendent, Mr. Green ?

A.—(*a*) Practical experience in large printing presses in England and in the Madras Government Press.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) The pay allowed to Mr. Lepper was the minimum pay for which a suitable candidate could be secured on a five years' contract.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know what attempts were made by Government to see whether a suitable person on a lower salary could be got for the post ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" At present, no attempt is being made."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Cannot an Indian be appointed to this vacancy ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur : —" No such question arises now. There is no vacancy."